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OLDS

ALBERTA
CANADA

THE CENTRE
OF THE BEST MIXED
FARMING DISTRICT
IN THE WEST

FACTS

PREPARED BY
**Olds Chamber of Commerce
and Board of Trade**

OLDS, ALBERTA

CANADA

Location.

The town of Olds is situated on the Canadian Pacific Railway, 60 miles north of Calgary and 120 miles south of Edmonton, having six passenger trains a day, and is the centre of the best mixed farming district in Western Canada. Population 1,000.

The district extends to the east for 30 miles, to the west for 50 miles and to the north and south, 8 to 10 miles.

Business Facilities.

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The town is well managed and excellently served by the best business facilities in the way of continuous telephone service, newspaper, general stores, banks, elevators, stock yards, creameries, cheese factories, hotels, electric light plant, real estate and insurance offices, lumber yards, stock and produce merchants, hardware merchants, garages, theatre, machine and welding shops, implement warehouses, grist mills, tin shop; and the professions are also well represented.

Educational.

A well trained staff of teachers is in charge of both the Public School and High School.

The Government School of Agriculture is also operated here, free of cost to the pupils, with a staff of highly trained specialists.

Religious.

Six of the leading Denominations are represented.

Societies.

Operating successfully in the interests of the people, are the following: Board of Trade, Agricultural Society, and various clubs and Lodges, and sports are represented by clubs of Baseball, Tennis, Golf, Curling, Cricket and others.

The District Generally.

The eastern portion of the District is more or less open prairie land, which gradually undulates as you progress Westward, terminating in the Foothills of the Rocky Mountains, which mountains are plainly visible from the town. The landscape is picturesque open level vistas, dotted with clumps of bush in the vicinity of the town, giving way to a more dense and heavily timbered land on the ridges adjoining the Little Red Deer River, and Red Deer River in the west. The soil is a heavy black loam varying from 12 to 18 inches in depth, with a clay sub-soil making an ideal combination to withstand any reasonable period of dry weather.

The Climate.

The climate on the whole is not extreme; Summer and Fall are delightful while the Winters are moderate, with periods of cold moderated by the Chinook winds. Snowfall fairly abundant which provides sleighing for two or three months during the winter. Rainfall is abundant as evidenced by the following

table, taken from Government figures:

1915	27.42 ins.	1916	29.57 ins.
1917	16.19 ins.	1918	9.60 ins.
1919	15.14 ins.	1920	15.07 ins.
1921	14.93 ins.	1922	13.44 ins.
1923	22.61 ins.	1924	20.07 ins.

Crop failures are unknown in this district, and irrigation is not necessary, as the above figures would indicate.

Average Grain Yields.

A careful examination into this matter, extending over a period of ten years, has shown the following average yield per acre: Wheat, 30 bus. Oats 80 bus. Barley 40 bus. Rye 30 bus., while Timothy Hay has averaged 1½ tons per acre, and Wild Hay has averaged slightly more. Vegetables do exceedingly well.

Numerous yields in the year 1923 were as follows: Wheat 55 bus. per acre, Oats 100 bus. per acre, Barley 60 bus. per acre; these were obtained in different parts of the district, while on plots at the Agriculture School Wheat yielded as high as 105 bus. per acre, and Oats 120 bus. per acre.

Stock Raising.

Live stock is one of the greatest assets, the abundance of wild hay on the pasture land, plenty of water, springs and sloughs, making an ideal condition for this business. Alfalfa and sweet clover are being successfully grown. The raising of Hogs has increased enormously and has been a source of great profit.

Dairying and the raising of Poultry is a very remunerative business, and is engaging

the attention of practically all of our farmers. Creameries are located at various points in the district and within easy reach of everyone.

Exportation in 1925.

Below is a compilation of the products which were shipped from the Town of Olds in the year 1925, and are as accurate as is possible to have them. These figures speak well for what the district can and does produce.

Wheat, bush.	450,000
Oats, bush.	410,000
Barley, bush.	90,000
Hay, tons	5,234
Horses, head	700
Cattle, head	6,970
Hogs, head	14,000
Sheep, head	650
Eggs, doz.	79,000
Hides, tons	24
Butter and Cheese, lbs.	460,000
Poultry, lbs.	180,000

At the market price these commodities approximated a total value of \$1,654,800.00.

Rural Conditions.

Rural Schools are situated every four miles, Rural Telephones reach practically every part of the district, the roads are good and well kept, and everything tends to make it desirable for the intending settler and his family.

Land Values.

Land prices are comparatively low, ranging from \$10.00 per acre for outlying land, unim-

proved or slightly improved, to \$75.00 per acre for highly improved land close to the town and railway.

During the past six months approximately 45,000 acres of land have been sold for a total of \$1,480,000.00.

Game Possibilities.

Olds is a gateway to the Clearwater Forest Reserve, which is one of the finest Hunting Grounds in the World.

The game to be found includes: Grizzly, Caribou, Moose, Mountain Sheep and Goats, Virginia Deer, Mule Deer, Black and Brown Bears, as well as a large variety of the smaller fur-bearing animals. The Reserve is under Government supervision, and lies between two Game Sanctuaries, Jasper Park and Rocky Mountain Park, both Government Parks, so that it is a Sportsman's Paradise.

Large numbers of Game Birds are found all through the district—Wild Ducks, Prairie Chickens, Bush Partridge, Hungarian Partridge being particularly numerous.

Write to the Secretary of the Olds Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce for further information.